

DISCUSS DISPOSITION OF MERCHANT MARINE

Prominent Men of Affairs Attend Conference.

WASHINGTON, April 15.—Data bearing on problems of the shipping board in its operation and disposition of private ownership of the government's merchant marine was submitted today to business men of the country and chairman of congressional committees who began a two-day conference here with members of the board.

Two former chairmen of the board, Secretary of Interior Payne and Edward N. Hurley, of Chicago, were among those present. The men advising with the board represented the country's greatest commercial and industrial interests, among them being Julius Rosenwald and Albert W. Hall, of Chicago, and James A. Farrell, of New York. Chairman of the senate committee on commerce and navigation and the house committee on merchant marine and appropriations were invited to add to the board and business men in solving the American merchant marine problem.

Linked with the problem of operation by the board of its vessels is the question of placing the fleet in private hands. Complicating his question is the injunction granted by the district supreme court which forbids the board to sell the 28 former German passenger liners, which were taken over by the government during the war.

ART ASSOCIATION IS GAINING MEMBERS

Apparently, nothing has been needed except an invitation from members of the Memphis Art association to enable that organization to attract new membership to any desired number. Beginning a membership campaign this week for the first time since its organization, the association has added several thousand members to its list. The aims of the association are twofold. It is desired to arouse a greater general interest in everything relating to art, to the value of culture, to a realization that beauty in itself means something in life, and the association hopes through a larger membership that its work will be better sustained financially, enabling the members to bring to Memphis more worth-while exhibits. The membership campaign will be continued and the members believe that even the goal of 10,000 members, which many believed impossible, may be attained.

CONSTRUCTION GOING AHEAD; MEN ON JOB

Building construction of every kind is being pushed by contractors, although scarcity of building material, which has caused numerous delays, has been more marked within the past week due to embargoes on shipments from the switchmen's strike. Contractors, however, generally have been able to keep their men at work and have enough work in sight to keep every workman in Memphis busy all summer. Wage scale disputes between some of the contractors and members of the building trades unions have not all been settled, but, according to reports received by E. W. G. Meera, secretary of the Builders' exchange, some of the dissenters who refused the offer of contractors of \$1 an hour, demanding \$1.25, have returned to work and some others are working at the former scale although they demanded a rate which would have given them \$10 a day.

Plough Company Buys Warehouse

Immediate work of remodeling the building purchased by the Plough Chemical company through W. L. Keiser, district attorney, for a laboratory will begin at once and the chemical organization hopes to occupy its new home within a short while, according to Abe Plough, president, Thursday. The new building will be used for manufacture of toilet preparations. Mr. Plough said. The plant's establishment at Second street and Gayoso avenue will continue to be headquarters as formerly.

The new home at Railroad avenue was purchased Wednesday for a price said to be \$100,000. Formerly it was occupied by the National Fruit Products company, C. H. Richards, president, who recently was arrested on federal warrants charging false income tax returns. The building was seized by the government.

The site is 105 by 170 feet with rail trackage giving access to all initial lines entering this city. A three-story building will give the Plough Chemical company floor space of 40,000 feet. Mr. Plough says over 100 employees will be stationed at the new department. This with the force at the Second street establishment will bring their payroll total to 250 and make the company one of the largest in the country.

BLOUNT PLANT BUYS FRONT STREET BUILDING

Remodeling of present quarters and the erection of an addition by the Memphis branch of the Blount Plow Works, located at 149 South Front street, will begin shortly, according to O. E. Hamilton, local manager, who has announced the purchase of the building from the Lee estate. The purchase price was said to be \$150,000.

Additional space is required to handle Memphis and Memphis territory business, according to Mr. Hamilton, who said that in the past four years the Blount Plow company had increased its sales 400 per cent. The building was purchased through Bayless G. Lee. Its location, Mr. Hamilton said, is ideal for the company's purposes. Rail trackage is accessible and the building with added floor space to the present 2,700 square feet, will give ample room. Additional men will be employed locally for distribution of Blount plows in the tri-state Texas, Oklahoma, Louisiana and Alabama, territory now covered by the Memphis branch.

REPORT SHOWS YEAR'S ACTIVITY FOR GARDENING

Increased usefulness of the gardening booth in court yards during the coming year was predicted in the annual report submitted Wednesday by Mrs. T. F. Kelley, in charge, to the Chamber of Commerce. The \$2,500 set aside by the Chamber of Commerce for this work was put to various uses, the report showed. Seeds were distributed, advice given, lectures made, exhibits placed at the Tri-State fair and numerous other aids in home gardening accomplished. All the report said, had much to do with gain in conservation and production of food.

CITY CLUB MAY SETTLE QUESTION OF BONUS

Members of the City club Saturday will discuss the proposed bonus for ex-service men for which a bill is pending in congress. Whether or not members of congress will be guided by the action of the club is an open question. A resolution favoring a bonus was reported last week by a committee, of which A. D. Waldauer is chairman. However, three of the seven members presented a minority report, and the resolution was opposed on the ground that few ex-soldiers or sailors really wish a bonus which would cost billions.

GOES TO GET EVIDENCE.

Hearing in the case of C. F. Sites, charged with using the mail to defraud, will be held before U. S. Commissioner George H. Poole Monday. The government is busy securing additional evidence.

SECURE CHARTER.

A charter was issued Wednesday to the Johnson-Burrows Building company with a capital stock of \$125,000. Incorporators are W. C. Johnson, John A. Hays, J. T. Hays, A. K. Burrows and E. O. Bailey.

Estes Attending Epworth Meeting

Rev. L. H. Estes, pastor of St. Paul Methodist church and president of the Memphis conference Epworth League, left Thursday to attend the district institute of the Epworth League at Union City, Tenn. Dr. Estes will speak before the institute Thursday night and Friday morning.

ESTATE WOUND UP.

Final report of Mrs. Elizabeth G. Buchanan, administratrix of the estate of the late Arthur S. Buchanan, was approved Wednesday by Judge P. M. Guthrie of probate court. Bond of \$100,000 furnished by Mrs. Buchanan while she administered the \$50,000 estate, was cancelled.

MARYVILLE IN LINE.

MARYVILLE, Tenn., April 15.—Maryville college boys today organized a 100 per cent overall club, and the college plan to form a blue denim club as their leader.

EXPERT COMING TO AID CHAMBER GET MEMBERS

First steps in the membership campaign which the Chamber of Commerce is planning for May were taken Thursday when arrangements were made for the reception of Calvin E. Brown, membership expert of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States, who will be here during the drive. Mr. Brown offered his services to the local club Wednesday. According to Secretary Haysley his aid will materially assist in putting Memphis far in front of other Southern cities in point of C. of C. memberships.

DOKEYS FROM MEMPHIS TO VISIT JACKSON BRETHREN

A score of more of the members of El Memphis temple, D. O. K. K., will go to Jackson, Tenn., Friday, April 23, to pay a ceremonial visit to their brethren of El Horeb temple, whose invitation has been accepted by local arrangements and have chartered a special car for the trip which will be attached to the regular train Friday noon. A. L. Crabtree and R. L. Gookin have been appointed to lead the chapters and Jack Gilbert will officiate as their leader.

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